The head of the division could be drawn from either of the geological or geophysical streams depending on his suitability.

(e) Since AMSE Wing's function is of an integrated multi-disciplinary nature there is no proposal to transfer all geophysicists of GSI to AMSE Wing as the geophysicists of the regions have their own specific role to play in their respective regions.

Project Vasundhara of Air-borne Mineral Surveys and Exploration Wing

3854 SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the project Vasundhara listed in Annual Field Programme for 1987-88 of Air-borne Mineral Surveys and Exploration Wing of the Geological Survey of India is a airborne Geophysical survey;

(b) if so, what are the results the project is expected to produce;

(c) whether it is a fact that the project's main work is compilation of statistical data available in various records which normally a senior Tech Assistant (Geology) is expected to do;

(d) if not, what field work either by air or through land is likely to be carried out by officers listed in the programme; and

(e) what is the exact work entrusted to each of the Officers detailed on this project, and what are the reasons that it was not indicated in the Programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) Project Vasundhara is not an air-borne geophysical survey programme as such. It is an inter-departmental (involving Department of Mines and Department of Space) collaborative multi-disciplinary project executed by Geological Survey of India and Indian Space Research Organisation.

(b) Project Vasundhara is executed to generate digital cartographic data base and transfer of the diverse thematic data involving geological, topographic, magnetic, mineral locations data etc., on to this base to create a comprehensive information system and to evolve and optimise procedure for multi-theme data integration for mineral targeting.

(c) The main work involves interpretation, analysis and concurrent synthesis of landsat imagery data, airborne geophysical data, gravity data, mineral occurrences data etc., through digital processing for preparation of prognostic maps indicating potential target areas. The work cannot be carried out by Senior Technical Assistants and needs experienced geoscientists with knowledge of Statistics and computer techniques.

(d) It is proposed to carry out ground geological and geophysical surveys in three out of eight selected blocks during 1987-88 to aid the incorporation of multi-theme data in the geographical information system under development.

(e) The work is being carried out as a collaborative team effort and cannot be individually apportioned. It has been usual practice to give total quantum of work and names of officers for any FSP of Geological Survey of Inida.

Surveys conducted by Airborne Mineral Surveys and Exploration wing

3855 SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Airborne Geophysical Survey carried out by the Airborne Mineral Surveys and Ex-

ploration wing of the Geological Survey of India in the last three years;

(b) how many geologists were associated with the geophysical surveys and for what purpose;

(c) what are the new mineral deposits located through Airborne Geophysical surveys;

(d) what is the total value of mineral deposits located and estimated by the AMSE Wing of Geological Survey of India; and

(e) what is the total expenditure incurred on surveys and supporting establishment of the AMSE wing of Geological Survey of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA). (a) A total of Four items of Airborne Geophysical flight surveys were carried out by Airborne Mineral Survey and Explotation Wing of GSI during last three years. This is part of a total of 138 items included in the programme of AMSE Wing for Flight and ground follow up during the period.

(b) Total number of Geologists engaged in AMSE Wing during the period are 6 in 1984-85, 79 in 1985-86 and 78 in 1986-87. Geologists are associated in pre-flight preparations, day-to-day assistance during flight, post flight coverage involving marking of anomalies, grading of anomalies, considering geophysical response and geological and geochemical environment and ground follow up in furtherance of geological studies and mineral search

(c) and (d) Data collected during last three years are being processed for refining/interpolating geological maps and also for locating possible mineral prospects It is premature to indicate total value of Mineral prospects since the data pertaining to last three years are being processed.

(e) Expenditure made by AMSE Wing in lakhs of rupees during last three years is Rs 490 33 for 1984-85, Rs 678 65 for 1985-86 and Rs. 454.70 for 1986-87 This includes expenditure on Establishment, Operational, Machinery and Equipment.

Loss incurred by AMSE Wing of Geological Survey of India

3856 SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether any T C. Tops valued at Rs. 1 5 lakhs were recently lost by the Airborne Mineral Surveys and Exploration Wing of the Geological Survey of India;

(b) if so, what action was taken to fix responsibility for this loss;

(c) what is the probable time by which the enquiry is likely to be completed in case the enquiry is still proceeding;

(d) whether the Director (Mechanical) of the GSI has taken adequate steps to safeguard public property; and

(e) if so, what are the safety leakages that led to enormous loss to the exchequer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. There is a reported loss of TC Tips valued at around Rs 60.000/- in AMSE Wing of Geological Survey of India, Bangalore

(b) to (e) The Director General, Geological Survey of India has constituted a Committee to enquire into the reported loss. Matter is still under investigation.